

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A construction machine having a frame supporting a working mechanism on the front side thereof, a floor panel provided on said frame and pivotally supported at a fore end thereof through a supporting point, and an operator's seat provided on said floor panel and to be taken by an operator, characterized in that said construction machine comprises:

a support member located in a rear side of said frame to support a rear side portion of said floor panel;

a floor panel mount plate located on top of said support member for mounting thereon a rear side portion of said floor panel;

vibration insulators interposed between said floor panel mount plate and said support member to dampen vibrations to be transmitted to said floor panel mount plate from said frame through said support member; and

fastening members detachably mounted at a rear side portion of said floor panel to said floor panel mount plate;

said support member includes a support base located over said frame to support said floor panel mount plate thereon, and a plural number of support posts each fixed to said frame to support said support base from beneath; and each one of said vibration insulators being composed of upper and lower resilient members adapted to hold said support base from upper and lower sides, and bolts adapted to connect said floor panel mount plate to said support base through said resilient members.

2. (Original) A construction machine as defined in claim 1, further comprising a housing on said floor panel, said housing being arranged to cover said operator's seat at least at an overhead position and provided with a base plate in a rear side portion to be attached to a rear side of said floor panel.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Original) A construction machine as defined in claim 2, wherein said fastening members are adapted to fasten said base plate of said housing to said floor panel mount plate together with a rear side portion of said floor panel.

5. (Original) A construction machine as defined in claim 1, wherein said fastening members are each in the form of a bolt with a male screw, and said floor panel mount plate is provided with vibration insulator mount portions adapted to mount said vibration insulators from beneath, and female screw provided at different positions from said vibration insulator mount portions and said bolt being threaded into said female screw from above said floor panel mount plate.

6. (Original) A construction machine as defined in claim 1, further comprising a tilting stopper between said frame and said floor panel to restrict a tilting action of said floor panel to a predetermined angular position when said floor panel is tilted along with said operator's seat.

7. (Original) A construction machine as defined in claim 1, further comprising a floor panel support mechanism located between fore ends of said frame and said floor panel, and connected to fore end of said floor panel through a support point in tilting up and down along with said operator's seat; and

a tilting stopper provided on said floor panel support mechanism to restrict a tilting action of said floor panel to a predetermined angular position when said floor

panel is tilted forward by way of using said floor panel support mechanism as a supporting point.

8. (Original) A construction machine as defined in claim 7, wherein said floor panel support mechanism is comprised of a first bracket provided on the side of said frame, a second bracket provided on the side of said floor panel, and a joint pin pivotally connecting said first and second brackets; and

said tilting stopper is comprised of a load support portion provided on one of said first and second brackets, and an abutting portion provided on the other one of said first and second brackets and brought into abutment against said load support portion when said floor panel has been tilted to a predetermined angular position.

9. (Currently Amended) A construction machine as defined in claim 8, wherein one of said first and second brackets is comprised of a mount stand fixed on one of said frame or on and said floor panel, and a tubular support member provided on said mount stand to have an axis thereof in a transverse direction; and

the other one of said first and second brackets is comprised of a pair of mount plates adapted to support opposite end portions of said joint pin passed through said tubular support member;

said load support portion of said tilting stopper being constituted by a fixed projection formed on a mount stand of one of said first and second brackets; and

said abutting portion being constituted by a movable projection formed at a fore end of on one of said mount plates and moved along with said floor panel toward said fixed projection when said floor panel is tilted.

10. (Currently Amended) A construction machine as defined in claim 1, further comprising a floor panel support mechanism located between fore ends of said frame and said floor panel, and connected to a fore end of said floor panel through a support point ~~in for~~ tilting up and down along with said operator's seat;

a tilting mechanism provided between said frame and said floor panel on the rear side of said floor panel support mechanism, said tilting mechanism being adapted to tilt up and down said floor panel by way of a pivoting point provided on the side of said frame and a displacement point provided on the side of said floor panel and translated to an arbitrary position, tilting up said floor panel in forward or upward direction to a degree commensurate with distance of translation of said displacement point.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~A construction machine as defined in claim 10, A~~
construction machine having a frame supporting a working mechanism on the front side thereof, a floor panel provided on said frame and pivotally supported at a fore end thereof through a supporting point, and an operator's seat provided on said floor panel and to be taken by an operator, characterized in that said construction machine comprises:

a support member located in a rear side of said frame to support a rear side portion of said floor panel;

a floor panel mount plate located on top of said support member for mounting thereon a rear side portion of said floor panel;

vibration insulators interposed between said floor panel mount plate and said support member to dampen vibrations to be transmitted to said floor panel mount plate from said frame through said support member;

fastening members detachably mounted at a rear side portion of said floor panel to said floor panel mount plate;

a floor panel support mechanism located between fore ends of said frame and said floor panel, and connected to a fore end of said floor panel through a support point for tilting up and down along with said operator's seat; and

a tilting mechanism provided between said frame and said floor panel on the rear side of said floor panel support mechanism, said tilting mechanism being adapted to tilt up and down said floor panel by way of a pivoting point provided on the side of

said frame and a displacement point provided on the side of said floor panel and translated to an arbitrary position, tilting up said floor panel in forward or upward direction to a degree commensurate with distance of translation of said displacement point.

wherein said tilting mechanism comprises a guide rail assembly having a pivoting point at base end thereof pivotally supported on the side of said frame for upward and downward pivoting movements and having a fore end extended forward in a free state, a screw rod extended along and in longitudinal direction of said guide rail assembly and rotatably supported on said guide rail assembly, and a displacement member rotatably mounted on the side of said floor panel and held in threaded engagement with said screw rod as a displacement point for movement in forward and rearward directions along said guide rail assembly.